

be made thereafter to an assignee of any moneys due or to become due under such contract, whether during or after such war or emergency, shall not be subject to reduction or set-off for any liability of any nature of the assignor to the United States or any department or agency thereof which arises independently of such contract, or hereafter for any liability of the assignor on account of (1) renegotiation under any renegotiation statute or under any statutory renegotiation article in the contract, (2) fines, (3) penalties (which term does not include amounts which may be collected or withheld from the assignor in accordance with or for failure to comply with the terms of the contract), or (4) taxes, social security contributions, or the withholding or nonwithholding of taxes or social security contributions, whether arising from or independently of such contract.

Nonimpairment of
prior rights, etc.

"Except as herein otherwise provided, nothing in this Act, as amended, shall be deemed to affect or impair rights or obligations heretofore accrued."

Approved May 15, 1951.

Public Law 31

CHAPTER 81

AN ACT

May 16, 1951
[H. R. 3291]

To amend subdivision a of section 34 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended.

30 Stat. 555, 557.
11 U. S. C. §§ 62 (a),
71 (b).

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subdivision a of section 34 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following additional sentence: "Upon the expiration of his term, a referee in bankruptcy shall continue to perform the duties of his office until his successor is appointed and qualifies provided the filling of the vacancy has been authorized by the Conference as provided in subdivision b of section 43 of this Act."

Approved May 16, 1951.

Public Law 32

CHAPTER 82

AN ACT

May 16, 1951
[H. R. 3292]

To amend subdivision a of section 55 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended.

30 Stat. 559.
11 U. S. C. § 91 (a)
First meeting of
creditors.

30 Stat. 555.
11 U. S. C. § 65 (b)
(1).

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subdivision a of section 55 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"a. The court shall cause the first meeting of the creditors of a bankrupt to be held not less than ten nor more than thirty days after the adjudication, at the place or at one of the places designated by the conference pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision b of section 37 of this Act as a place at which court shall be held within the judicial district in which the proceeding is pending or if that place would be unreasonably inconvenient as a place of meeting for the parties in interest, the court shall fix a place for the meeting within said judicial district which is not unreasonably inconvenient for the parties in interest. If such meeting should by any mischance not be held within such time, the court shall fix the date as soon as may be thereafter, when it shall be held."

Approved May 16, 1951.